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Environment Department to Offer Water Quality Demonstrations and Free Well Water Testing in Carlsbad and Ruidoso

(Santa Fe, NM) — The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality and Ground Water Quality Bureaus will be demonstrating surface water sampling and conducting free private well water testing for contaminants in the Lower Pecos River Basin during the month of October.

On October 7 at Town Lake Park in **Carlsbad** the Department will offer free private well water testing between 11 am and 3 pm. A surface water quality field demonstration will be held between noon and 1 pm near the park in Tansil Lake. To find Town Lake Park take a left on Park Drive off of Highway 62 (also known as E Green St.) The park is on the right.

On October 20 at Two Rivers Park in **Ruidoso** the Department will offer free private well water testing between 1 and 4 pm. A surface water quality field demonstration will be held from 2 to 3 pm on the Ruidoso River. Two Rivers Park is on the corner of Sudderth and Robyn Streets.

For private well water tests samples must be at least one quart in volume, freshly taken from a cold-water faucet and brought in a covered, clean glass or plastic container.

Water quality monitoring techniques to be demonstrated include, chemical (water chemistry), biological [fish, aquatic macroinvertebrates (insects)] and physical (geomorphology-functionality of the river). Bureau representatives will discuss the purpose of the water quality study, water quality concerns identified in the watershed, and how the study is conducted.

For more information or if you are interested in having a field demonstration or free private well water testing in your area, contact Julie Arvidson at (505) 476-3069 or julie_arvidson@nmenv.state.nm.us

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